4103. c. 20.
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A True Reporte of three ſtraunge and wonderful Accidents, lately hapened at PERNAW, a Cittie in Liffande.

Wherein is conteyned a Propheſie of the greate Dearth & Famine, which (by reaſon of the warres in thoſe partes) hath there come to paſſe in the yeare laſt paſt, 1602.

And alſo of the great Victorie lately atchiued by the great Sophy, who with the aide & aſſiſtance of the King of Perſia, ouerthrew the Turkiſh Emperour with all his forces neere vnto thé River Euphrates.

Truely tranſlated out of the Dutch printed Coppie, printed at Nimmegen,

At London printed by R. [illegible]
1603.

¶ A true Report of three strange accidents which lately happened at Pernaw, a Cittie in Livlandé &c.

WE finde (gentle reader) in ancient Histories, and principally in the workes of that famous and learned writer Flavius Iosephus lib. 7. cap. 12. that before the lamentable and woful destruction of Hierusalem, there appeared many strange signes both in the aire, and among the people, namely there was seene right above the said Cittie a dreadfull Starre, in forme and fashion of a Sword: as also that in the darke night cleare day appeared and was seene in the Temple: that a Cow brought forth a Lambe, and which was most strange, a certaine man went vp and downe among the people, continually for the space of fourten yeares before, not ceasing with woful cries, to forwarne and admonish the people to forsake their wickednes: fore shewing the destruction of the place.

The very like, yea and almost the verie same accidents signes and wonders, have lately happened within this whilome most pleasante Countrie of Livonia, in

the Cittie of Pernaw: for in the yeare 1599. vppon Saint Lukes day, a certaine Merchant of the said Cittie, hauing (according to the custome of the Countrie) enuited many of his freinds and Neighbours to a feast at his house, among the rest also, enuited thither a certaine old man of the same Cittie whose name was Stile, a man of the age of foure score yeares or thereabout, knowne to all the inhabitants there to be borne deafe and dumbe, and had soe continued all his life tyme to that day.

This olde man being placed at the table among the company, and seing the great and horrible abuse of the good guiftes and creatures of God which were there prouided, by those abhominable vices of gluttony and drunkennes, and not being able to endure the sight therof, by the iust iudgment of God presently leapt ouer the Table, and with a fierce and sterne countenance, turning his eyes toward the people, and wringing his hands as a signe of the great sorrow which he conceiued at his hart, burst forth in these speaches to the Companie which were present.

Alas quoth he (my deare freinds) how can you be thus merrie, when a man seing this abhominable abuse, to the high displeasure of almightie God, might well loathe to liue any longer in so wicked a time. Therfore (deare brethren and sisters) repent, repent I say, for the punishment of the Lord God is neare at hand: with greate stormes and ouerflowing waters, wil he destroy the wicked, and nothing but affliction and punnishment shalbe their portion.

Such dearth that yeare shalbe that the people shall not finde any foode for nourishment, nor any way to escape by reason of the troublesome warre to come: great plague pestilence and murcen shall destroy both younge and old, therfore liue ye as if presently ye should die, for surely it is at hand: great and horrible wonders shall ye heare,

and

and se many strange and monstrous Children borne, as a looking-glasse both for rich and poore.

The people with great admiration and astonishment came running together to se this miracle which had happenned, and the Company which were enuited being daszled with this suddaine accident, hauing now giuen ouer their pastime and being sore amazed were with one accord attentiue to the speaches of the olde man, perceiuing aswell by his strange gestures as by the suddainnes of his speach that this was Gods onely doings: and being moued with great feare and horror, asked him at what time all those things should happen: whereuppon the said dumbe man thus presentlie replied.

Ere the yeare 99 be come and past, the Lord God in his iust anger and wrath will draw his sword, therfore repent you of your sinnes, for the day of iudgment is at hand.

These words spoken, the man was againe bereft of his speach, and became dumbe as before, felling him selfe presently sicke, and the next day after he died: and was honorably buried, being accompanied to ỳ Church, by an infinite number of the inhabitantes there, whoe greatly lamented for his death.

The next day after his buriall, there was a certaine woman brought forth a man childe, with a naturall face before, and behind like the scull of a dead man, his right arme also was like a Sword, and the other like a Rodde: which child liued two dayes and no longer.

After this the Lord shewed an other, no lesse fearefull signe of his indignation and wrath, for iust ouer the said Cittie of Pernaw, was perfectly seene in the cleare Firmament or Skie, a Beare and Coffin, couered all with blacke: which sight endured from foure of the clocke in the afternoone, till eleuen in the same Night.

Therefore good christians, consider first the suddaine and

and fearefull ſpeech of the Dumbe, ſecondly, looke vppon the monſtrous birth and ſhape of this Childe, and laſtly, meditate vppon the fearfull ſigne ſeene in the Ayre, and therevpon with an humble and penitent hart, imagine the Tragicall end of all, pittying the afflicted Countrey and people of Lyffeland, and let their hard fortune be a warning to thee, that thou ſinne no more preſumptuouſly.

And as ỹ heathen Poet ſayeth. Fœlix quẽ faciunt aliena pericula cautum, that is to ſaye, happy is he which can beware by other mens perilles: make thy ſelfe happie with this warning, and doe not with the wicked and ſtubborne Jewes, contemne and ſcorne, this gentle admonition, and fore-warning of the Dumbe, leaſt God in his Juſtice bring a worſe Plague vpon vs, then he did eyther vpon thoſe Jewes or vppon this Countrey of Lyffeland.

FINIS.

A True Reporte of

the great Victorie lately atchiued by the great SOPHY: who with the aide and assistance of the the king of Persia, ouerthrew the Turkish Emperour with all his forces, neere vnto the riuer Euphrates.

Truly translated out of the high Dutch Copie printed at Hamborrow. 1602.

At London printed 1603.

BRITISH MUSEUM

¶ At London print

¶ A true Report, of the late victorie atchiued by the great Sophy: together with the king of Persia, vpon the Turkes &c.

WHereas the great Turkish Emperour with all his Armie, munition, and preparation, was come to the Ryuer of Euphrates, being strong both of Horse & foot, about three hundred Thousand men, and perceauing that Morath generall of ỳ Persians, had cauled the Bridge to be pulled down there, ỳ was made ouer the said Riuer, and that he was marched on th'other side, and hard by a mountaine did prepare and strengthen himselfe with ỳ forces sent vnto him by ỳ great Sophy, with those hee had before, so that the Persians were stronge about Foure-score and tenne Thousand men, amongst the which were about twenty Thousand, whereof every one of them, had two horses for a man.

The Turke could not haue so much inteligence to vnderstand if the Sophy himselfe were personally present in thẽ Campe, or no: or if he yet were in Persia for more forces, which he especially did feare.

Becaus therfore he could not passe ouer the Riuer,

he in all haſt cauſed the bridge to be buſſded againe, and ſent ouer the ſaid Riuer two Generalls called Bellerbyes with their forces, to wit Bellerby of Gretia and Bellerby of Natolia, but he himſelfe tarried on this ſide of the water till the next morning.

Now about two houres before day breaking the Generall Morethfell in the Campe of Bellerby of Grecia, who had encamped himſelfe ſomwhat farre off from the Bellerby of Natolia, and moſt valiently came vppon him with ſuch a force and power, that he vppon a ſoddaine moſt ſpædily did ouercome all his Enſignes and Tents, and ouerthrew and ſlew all his Campe.

The Soldiers of the Campe of the Bellerby of Natolia hærwithäll were put in ſuch a feare, that they ranne in to the Riuer, and paſſed ouer to the Campe of the great Turke,

The Turke ſæing this ill ſucceſſe, præſently planted his Ordenaunce in good order one by an other, and placed the ſame right againſt the Enemie which was on the other ſide of the water: and becauſe they ſhould not ſée the Ordinaunce, he commaunded that ſome Companies ſhould be placed and ſtand before the ſaid Ordinance, with this token, that when the peices of Ordinance ſhould be all in readines and charged, they ſhould ſound Alarme and the ſaid Companies ſtanding before the ſaid Ordinance ſhould part aſide, and ſo to diſcharge the ſaid peices of Ordinance vppon the Enemie.

This determination being agrəd vppon, and fire being put to the aforeſaid Ordenance, many of them did burſt and fly abroad, and ſlew and hurt a notable number of men, yea and many of the Turkiſh Armie: by the noiſe, cry, and tumult wherof, many Horſes and Mules, with thoſe that were on the backs of them did leape into the Riuer and were drowned,

The

The Sophians and Persians which had sustained great losse of men by meanes of the Ordinance, retired on the other side of the Mountaine, and it was supposed that at that time were slaine and shot to death about Twentie thousand Sophians and Persians.

They retireing so backwards as is aforesaid, the Turke with all his whole Armie passed ouer the River, and marched towards the Mountaine where the Sophians were encamped, who had deuided themselues into foure partes or squadrons, keeping close together: and when they sawe that the Turkes came vppon them, they were glad, and most valiently met and fought with them so that on both sides many men were slaine: but the night ouertoke them, which was to the aduantage of the Sophians for it was not possible that they could resist and withstand longer against the great force and power of the Turkes, therefore by Night they all did flye to the Mountaine, the Turkes for darkenesse could not follow them; as they were minded and would faine haue done and so the Turke tarrying in the fieldes that Night purposed and concluded the next day to leaue all his footemen with the peeces of Ordinance behind him and with horsemen onely to pursue the Enemies and by these meanes vnawares to surprise and take the Towne of Tauris, before those of the Towne should heare of the ouerthrowe of the Sophy.

But on the other side, the Persians and Sophians, which diligently did looke to themselues, and had great care to the matter, concluded with themselues, that ten thousand men which were the day before newly armed, should marche against the Turkes, and when the Turkes should come vppon them, they should flee, as if they were ouercome, and the rest of the Sophians and Persians, which were yet about twentie thousand, should come be-

hinde the Turks, and compaſſed them betwéen them both, and without doubte they ſhould ſpéed well, and ouercome their enemies. The next morning, the Turke ſéeing that the enimie was yet ſo neare at hand, he thought they had not bin able to fly any further for darknes, came vpon the with great force: but they preſently according to their agrément did fly, and the Turkes not thinking on this martial pollicie, did purſue them till noone, and being come to a ſmall Riuer, becauſe they were ſomwhat wearie, and tired, encamped themſelues on the ſaid Riuers ſide and there dined: and after dinner the freſh Turkes leauing the wearied and tyred Companies with all their treaſures and ſpoiles behinde them, thinking the nert night vnawares to ſurprize the Towne of Tauris, did purſue and chaſe the Perſians and Sophians, in their fained flight.

But when they came to the Towne, in all haſt a poſt came to the great Turke about two houres in the night, who certified vnto him that the enimie had ouerthrown and ſlaine all his ſoldiers which he had left behinde, and that they had gotten the pieces of Ordinance, and ſtill were coming with all their forces behinde him.

The Turke hearing ſuche newes, and thinking on the great treaſure that he had left behind him, preſently went back againe, and the Perſians and Sophians which herefore did flie, turned alſo backe againe, and ſawe that their forces did follow and purſue the Turks behinde. The Turkes which tarried with the treaſure on the ſaid water ſide, perceiuing their enemies did breake vp and runne away, the Perſians and Sophians being before and behinde the Turkes, came fiercely and valiantly vppon them, and did great hurt amongſt them.

The great Turke much diſcontented, ſéeing that the Ene-

Ennemie had ſo craftilie compaſſed and brought him in the middle betweene them, begun a moſt harde and hote battaile, wherin the Sophians and Perſians got the victorie: which when the Turkes ſaw, they did fly out on the one ſide, for otherwiſe it was not poſſible for them to eſcape.

The Turkiſh Emperour himſelfe, when he ſawe that all his forces did fly, and that all his Enſignes were taken, did likewiſe fly to ſaue his life, and came with a moſt ſwifte horſe to Amaſia, and tarried in Natolia till the remnant of his Armie (which was verie little) was gathered together: for the Turkes did nothing but flie all the night, and al thoſe which were ſlack in running, were all cut downe: and thoſe that came ouer the Riuer pulled downe the bridge made by them before, to the end the Perſians ſhould not purſue them: but the Perſians and Sophians being glad of the victorie, as Conquerours of the fielde, went home againe: although they would faine haue proſecuted their victorie, had not the moſt part of their forces been ſlaine

Performed in Anno Domini. 1602

FINIS.

BRITISH MUSEUM

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A True and Lamentable Reporte of the miserable & pitifull present state of the Cuntrey of LIVONIA, (commonly called Lyffelande) concerning the great Dearth & Famine now being there, [by reason of the VVarres] in such sorte that one Neighbour and Friende doth kill an other and eate them, the like neuer before, eyther seene or heard of.

(.*.)

Written by credible & great personages of that Cuntrey, vnto the reuerend and learned Conrado Schluſſelborrow, Doctor in Diuinitie, and Superintendant in the Citty of Stralsunde in Suetia.

Truly translated out of the high Dutch Copie printed at Hamborrow. 1602.

At London printed by R. B. 1603.

BRITISH MUSEUM

¶ A true Relation of the miserable and pitifull state of the Cuntrey of LIVONIA, afflicted with great Dearth Famine &c.

MOst Reuerend and learned Doctor, occasion serving at this present time I coulde not omitte to certifie vnto your worship the lamentable and pittifull estate of this sore afflicted country of Lyffland, for surely the iust wrath of God by reason of our manifold sinnes, is kindled against vs.

And first by reason of these warrs, many thousand men were slaine and put to ỹ swoorde on both sides, as wel Germanes, Dutchmen, Swedens, Poloniās: as also other nations, amongst the which many without any respect of person, sexe or age most cruelly were racked, martyred and burned, yea the fruite in the Mothers Wombe was not spared, the little Infants were taken and held vp by the feete, and without any mercie most barbarously massacred and cut into peeces.

Secondly, there was heere such wonderful and strang diseases and sicknesses almost amongst al men, that they did fall down in the stretes and fieldes, & became madde and senceleese yea and the most part died thereof.

Thirdly there was neuer such great dearth & famine, especially amongst the poore Husbandmen and Countrie folke, insomuch that many did eate the dead carions that they found in the fields, as Horses, Cats, Dogges, & also the very shoes of their feete, yea one Christian body hath eaten an other: and especially which is most wonderfull and neuer heard of before. That in the Towne of Salis two Daughters did eate their deceased Father, and also a woman did eate her deceased husbande. And at another place one neighbour sent his child to one of his neighbors to fetch or carry somthing, who toke the child and cut his throate, and whilest he was taking out the intrailes, the Father of the child [who did maruell of the long tarrying of his Childe came and perceauing that his Childe was slaughtered in manner aforesayd, was in a mighty rage, & fought with his neighbour who likewise killed ỹ father of ỹ child, & dressed him for meate & eate him. Such fearefull and heauy accidentes doe daylye happen with vs in Lyffland. God almighty most graciously deliuer vs and shew his mercy vpon vs. Dated at Pernaw, the fourth of September. Anno 1602.

¶ A

A true Copie of a Letter written & sent from the Castle of Osel, of the miserable estate at this present time of Lyffland: Written by M. Frauncis Rappen the elder Gentl. vnto the reuerend father M. Peter Dyddersteden, Preacher in ỹ Cittie of new Pernaw.

(.·.)

REuerend and learned father, Friend and Kinsman. I and all my household with all our harts are very sory and most pittifully grieued to heare the miserable estate, which you by reason of the fearefull raising of warres, haue sustayned, we likewise here in these places are troubled and plagued with famine (God Almighty shew his mercy vppon vs, and saue vs and deliuer vs from it) insomuch that if it pleased God we had rather to chuse a plagne for it. Seeing that not onely the poore people starueing and famishing do fall downe and die in the stretes and wayes, going one neighbour to an other, and doe still striue and fight for dead cattell which die of the murren, and most greedely doe eate the carions of the fielde and doe not regard how

vnnaturall it is to deuoure dead swyne, dogges & catter, but also one Christian and [illegible] killeth & eateth another, the parents doe dresse for [illegible] children when they are dead by reason of th[illegible], for the Enemie hath wasted & spoiled all [illegible]ountr[illegible] and robbed euery one of their goods, for which cause [illegible] haue beene constrained to go w̄ your wife and famine out of these countries into Germanie.

And although wee would faine giue double money for Corne, wee can here get none seeing all is gone, partly spoiled and wasted vpon the Fieldes, and partly by reason of the cold Summer it could not ripe, insomuch that all my Tennantes cannot furnish nor prouide me of a bushel of corne to releeue my poore familie, who for very hunger do starue and famish which most pittifully doeth greeue my harte.

I pray the Lord of Heauen mercifully to looke vppon vs, and deliuer vs from this most lamentable estate.

Dated at Osel the 22. of September. 1602.

Your worships friend

Francis Rappen the elder.

FINIS.